

REMARKS

With this Response, Applicants respectfully request that claims 1, 5-6, 10-11, 16-17, and 19-20 be canceled without prejudice. Claims 2-4, 7-9, 12-15, and 18 were previously canceled. Claims 21-33 are presented herein. Therefore, claims 21-33 are pending.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 10 and 11 were objected to for informalities. These claims have been canceled, rendering objection to these claims moot.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 5-6, 10-11, 16-17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,798,873 of Vardi et al. (*Vardi*). These claims are canceled herein, rendering rejection of these claims moot.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Vardi* in view of the Official Notice taken. Whether or not the Official Notice is properly taken, this claim has been canceled, rendering rejection of this claim moot.

NEW CLAIMS

New claims 21-33 are presented herein. These claims include subject matter of claims 5-6, 10-11, and 16-17 as originally filed, written in independent format. Applicants submit that these claims include at least one element not disclosed by the cited references, placing these claims in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome, placing all claims in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Date: 4/13/05

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